

For Immediate Release

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Jones Point Park *Pardon Our Dust* Meeting Set for December 8 at Alexandria's Lee Center

WHAT: The Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project (WWB) is hosting a *Pardon Our Dust* meeting to inform the public about the Jones Point Park Project. In close collaboration with the City of Alexandria and the National Park Service, WWB is about to embark on a major restoration effort at the park. Construction efforts will begin in December 2010 with completion anticipated in June 2012. Equipment staging will begin the week of November 22 and the Mount Vernon Trail will be re-routed via Franklin and South Royal Streets beginning the week of December 6. The project phases and timeline will be presented, along with renderings of the completed park.

WHEN: Wednesday, December 8, 2010
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

*Subject matter experts will be available for media interviews
from 6:30-7:00 p.m. prior to the meeting.*

AGENDA: 7:00-7:45 p.m. Open House
7:45-8:00 p.m. Welcome
8:00-8:15 p.m. Presentation
8:15-8:45 p.m. Question and Answer Session
8:45-9:00 p.m. Meeting Wrap Up

WHERE: Nannie J. Lee Center – Gold Rooms
1108 Jefferson St.
Alexandria, VA 22314-3924

BACKGROUND:

A green oasis in an urban area, Jones Point Park has a rich past. Two centuries ago, Alexandria was one of the nation's busiest seaports. During World War I, it was home to a sizeable shipyard, remnants of which include a large finishing pier on the water's edge and shipways presently overgrown by brush. Jones Point Park is also home to two significant historic treasures: the original southernmost District of Columbia boundary stone laid in 1791; and the nation's oldest surviving inland lighthouse, which dates back to 1855. Both of these landmarks were carefully monitored and preserved during construction of the new Woodrow Wilson Bridge.

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The new construction effort will focus on preserving the finishing pier, delineating the shipways, refurbishing the Jones Point Lighthouse, and improving public access to these areas. A refurbished seawall and a new protective enclosure will provide additional protection for the D.C. cornerstone, and a viewing port will be installed to allow the public to view the stone from above. In addition, interpretive panels will be placed at various points throughout the park to provide information for a walking tour.

Upon completion, the park will contain a balance of natural, recreational, and cultural resources and activities. All efforts will care for and conserve as much of the natural habitat and historical qualities as possible, while providing typical park amenities like trails, playgrounds, picnicking areas, multipurpose fields, community gardens, finishing piers, and a canoe/kayak launch.

For more information, please visit our Web site at www.wilsonbridge.com

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